THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) In view of limited utility of electrification on Shoranur-Mangalore railway line, there is, at present, no proposal to electrify this section.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Peninsular railway zone in Kerala

2129. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the competent authority of Kerala has proposed Peninsular Railway Zone in Kerala considering the geographical sprawls, administrative and operative considerations;

(b) if so, whether competent authority is considering the above proposal;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. Proposals have been received for a Railway Zone in Kerala from various Very Important Persons including Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) New zones are set up keeping in view factors like size, workload, accessibility, traffic pattern and other operating/ administrative requirements etc. consistent with the needs of economy and efficiency without any regional considerations. The proposal when seen in the light of the above criteria has not been found feasible.

Coca-Cola kiosk at Delhi junction station

2130. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on 28th June, 2007 an inspection was conducted by JGMT/IRCTC/NZ at the Coca-Cola kiosk installed at platform number 4/6 of Delhi Junction railway station;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the said kiosk is un-numbered and name of the licensee is not written on the kiosk;

(c) if so, what were the findings of the enquiry; and

(d) what action has been taken by concerned official against the owner of the kiosk?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The findings of the inspection are as under:–

1. Vendors deployed in the Coca-Cola kiosk were without medical certificates and Identity Cards.
2. Staffs were not wearing proper uniform.
3. Stalls were using more than allocated space by stacking water bottles, cartons etc.
4. Unbranded and unpacked items were sold.
5. Rate list was not displayed.
6. Sale of unapproved brand of Packaged Drinking Water.

(d) On account of the above findings all the four Automatic Vending Machines (AVM) kiosks operated by M/s Hindustan Coco-Cola Beverages Pvt. Ltd., were closed down and notice was served to the licensee to rectify the deficiencies immediately.

DMU passenger train

2131. KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of DMU passenger trains running in the country; and

(b) whether there is any proposal for DMU passenger train in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) At present, there are 347 Diesel Multiple Unit (DMU) passenger services on Indian Railways.

(b) No, Sir.

Anti-collision device

†2132. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in order to prevent train accidents, Government have decided to install anti-collision device across the entire railway network in the country;

(b) if so, the estimate regarding total number of devices required for the implementation of this scheme;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.